

Sri Lanka

US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens **RECONSIDER TRAVEL** to Sri Lanka due to COVID-19. Exercise increased caution in Sri Lanka due to terrorism. Consult its website daily via the link below for any travel advisories about visiting this country.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 1 blank page in their passport for any entry stamp and or visa that will be required. A visa is required. US citizens will need to get in touch with the country's embassy or nearest consulate to obtain a visa prior to visiting the country.

US Embassy/ Consulate

[94] (11) 249-8500; US Embassy Colombo, 210 Galle Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka

Vaccinations

An International Certificate of Vaccination for yellow fever is required for travelers arriving from countries with a risk of yellow fever transmission and for travelers having transited through the airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. See WHO recommendations.

<http://www.who.int>

Climate

Tropical monsoon; northeast monsoon (December to March); southwest monsoon (June to October)

Currency (Code)

Sri Lankan rupees (LKR)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug type(s): D, G



Major Languages

Sinhala 87%, Tamil 28.5%, English 23.8%; note: shares sum to more than 100% because some respondents gave more than one answer on the census; English is commonly used in government and is referred to as the "link language" in the constitution

Religions

Buddhist 70.2%, Hindu 12.6%, Muslim 9.7%, Roman Catholic 6.1%, other Christian 1.3%, other 0.05%

Time Difference

UTC+5.5 (10.5 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water.

International Driving Permit	Suggested
Road Driving Side	Left
Tourist destinations	Sigiriya Rock Fort; Yala National Park; Galle Fort; Adam's Peak; Temple of the Tooth; Arugam Bay; Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage; Gal Vihara
Cultural Practices	Flowers are uncommon gifts in Sri Lanka because they are traditionally associated with mourning.
Tipping Guidelines	Tipping 10% is customary in restaurants; if a service charge is included, leave a few extra rupees. Tip bar staff 100 rupees as you leave. Conventionally, 50-100 rupees is a good tip for hotel staff, including porters, room cleaners, and room service personnel. Tip taxi drivers 10% of the fare.
Telephone Code	94
Local Emergency Phone	1 691095, 699935

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination. http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

[US State Dept Travel Information - Overall information about foreign travel for US citizens. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html)

[To obtain an international driving permit \(IDP\). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs: American Automobile Association \(AAA\) \(www.aaa.com\) and American Automobile Touring Alliance \(AATA\) \(www.aataidp.com\)](http://www.aaa.com)

US citizens may call the US Dept of State (+1-202-501-4444) for emergencies abroad.

Tuesday, March 30, 2021